

# LIVING AS EXILES

WORDS OF GRACE FOR TROUBLED TIMES



LEAVING US  
AN EXAMPLE

1 PETER 2:13-25

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## Introduction

- Review of last week
- How then shall we live? vv.11-12
  - As pilgrims and sojourners with honorable conduct
- What are some specific ways in which Peter envisions this looking among the churches to which he writes?
- The difficulty of application because of differing factors in 1st century compared to today:
  - in government, slavery, and marriage
  - as minority religious sect

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## Subjection to Human Institution (13-15)

Be *subject* for the Lord's sake  
to every *human institution*,  
whether it be to the emperor as supreme,  
or to governors as sent by him  
to *punish* those who do evil  
and to *praise* those who do good.  
For this is *the will of God*,  
that by *doing good*  
you should put to *silence*  
the ignorance of foolish people.

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Living as the Free (16-17)

Live as people who are *free*,  
 not *using* your freedom as a cover-up for evil,  
 but living *as servants* of God.  
 Honor *everyone*.  
 Love the *brotherhood*.  
 Fear *God*.  
 Honor the *emperor*.

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The Subjection of Servants (18-19)

Servants,  
 be *subject* to your masters with all *respect*,  
 not only to the good and gentle  
 but also to the unjust.  
 For this is a *gracious* thing,  
 when, *mindful of God*,  
 one *endures sorrows* while *suffering unjustly*.

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For what *credit* is it if,  
 when *you sin* and are beaten for it,  
 you endure?  
 But if when you *do good* and *suffer for it* you endure,  
 this is a *gracious* thing *in the sight of God*.

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Christ the Example (21-22)

For *to this* you have been called,  
because Christ also suffered *for you*,  
leaving you an *example*,  
so that you might *follow in his steps*.  
He committed no sin,  
neither was deceit found in his mouth.  
When he was reviled, he *did not* revile in return;  
when he suffered, he *did not* threaten,  
but continued *entrusting himself*  
to *him who judges justly*.

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Christ the Healing Shepherd (24-25)

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree,  
that we might die to sin  
and live to righteousness.  
By his wounds you have been healed.  
For you were straying like sheep,  
but have now returned  
to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

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Application

- While Peter’s directives of subjection don’t answer all of the questions surrounding issues of either our relationship to governing authorities or servant-slavery, it is the starting point.
- The essence is entrusting ourselves to the God who judges justly.
- The response is to refuse to sin even when sinned against.
- The power is rooted in Jesus bearing our sins and healing us to live righteously...even and especially when in means suffering in situations beyond our control and ability to change.
- This week we will watch...as we do, we are called to the will of God.

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